

Public Notice – Environmental Project

PURPOSE OF NOTICE:

The Department of Environmental Quality seeks public comment on the state's response to the environmental aspects of a proposed project in the City of Suffolk, Virginia.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD:

October 2, 2012 to October 23, 2012

TYPE OF RESPONSE:

Federal Consistency Determination

DEQ is reviewing a proposed federal action to determine if it is consistent with the Virginia Coastal Zone Management Program (VCP) established pursuant to the U.S. Coastal Zone Management Act. The VCP seeks to protect the quality of air, water or other natural resources in Virginia's coastal area.

NAME OF AGENCY PROPOSING THE PROJECT:

DOD/U.S. Army Reserve

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

The Department of the Army (Army) U.S. Army Reserve (USAR) proposes the construction and operation of a US Army Reserve Center (USARC) in the City of Suffolk. The USAR would transfer the 12-acre 1LT Richard T. Shea USARC (Shea USARC) at 3502 Bennett's Creek Road in Suffolk to the City of Suffolk in exchange for 96 acres located at 886 Carolina Road in Suffolk. The City of Suffolk would make minor alterations to the existing building at the Shea USARC to retrofit it for their future use as a recreation center and would construct athletic fields northeast of the existing building. The Preferred Alternative includes the construction and operation of a USARC on approximately 20 acres of the 96 acres at 886 Carolina Road. The new facilities would include a 33,795-square foot administrative training building, an 8,048-square foot organizational maintenance shop, a 1,217-square foot unheated storage building, approximately 4,980 square yards of military equipment parking, and approximately 3,730 square yards of paving for vehicle parking and roads. A tapered deceleration lane would be constructed along northbound Carolina Road at the entrance to the USARC. A turn lane and a median crossing would be constructed along southbound Carolina Road. The median crossing located south of 886 Carolina Road would be closed. The proposed action would also include construction of a stormwater management basin. The Army has submitted a Federal Consistency Determination (FCD) for the proposed action that finds it consistent, to the maximum extent practicable, with the enforceable policies of the Virginia Coastal Zone Management Program.

HOW TO COMMENT:

DEQ accepts comments from the public by e-mail, fax or postal mail. All comments must include the name, address and telephone number of the person commenting and be received by DEQ within the comment period. The public may review the project documents at DEQ's central office in Richmond.

CONTACT FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS, DOCUMENT REQUESTS AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

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